

**St. Kitts & Nevis
International Ship
Registry**

*Flying the flag of the
Federation worldwide.*



www.StKittsNevisRegistry.net

West Wing, York House
48-50 Western Road
Romford, RM1 3LP
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1708 380400
Fax: +44 (0) 1708 380401
Email: mail@StKittsNevisRegistry.net

Maritime Circular to Maritime Registrars, Shipowners, Masters, Managers & Operators of St. Kitts & Nevis Ships, Classification Societies, Recognised Organisations, Recognised Security Organisations, Surveyors of Ships & Flag State Inspectors to this Administration, Seafarers & IMO Member States

Maritime Circular No. MC/16/09

DATE: 1st August 2009

LONG RANGE IDENTIFICATION AND TRACKING OF SHIPS (LRIT)

SOLAS Chapter IV Regulation 19.1 has been amended to include LRIT requirements for Flag States and their ships, the compliance date being 31st December 2008. LRIT is a security and safety system that will allow administrations to track ships registered under their flag and allow tracking of any vessel entering a zone of up to 1000 nautical miles from an Administrations coastline. LRIT will apply to all passenger ships including high speed craft, cargo ships of 300 tonnes and above and Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU) when underway. Ships will be required to automatically report their identity, the date, the time and their position four times each day. Ships constructed on or after 31st December 2008 must be fitted with LRIT in their construction phase. Ships constructed before then will be phased in depending on their operational area. Ships approved for sea areas A1 and A2 or A1, A2, A3 must comply no later than the first radio survey after 31st December 2008. Ships operating in sea areas A4 must comply no later than the first radio survey after 1st July 2009. Ships which operate only in the sea area 1 and which are fitted with Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) are exempted from the requirements or LRIT.

St. Kitts & Nevis International Ship Registry (**SKANReg**) has contracted with the following Commercial Service Provider to operate our National Data Centre. Any questions regarding your interaction with our National Data Centre, should be sent to Securewest with a cc to **SKANReg**.

Securewest International Inc
420 North Center Drive,
Bldg 11, Suite 206,
Norfolk, Virginia 23502
USA

Tel: +1 757 461 4343

Fax: + 1 757 461 8666

website: www.securewest.com

Email: mac@securewest.com

Contacts; stuartflynn@securewest.com (resident in UK)

stanayscue@securewest.com

kellylindsey@securewest.com

We have additionally appointed Authorised Service Providers (ASP) for testing as follows and further may be appointed in due course:

- Securewest International Inc.
- Pole Star Applications Ltd.
- Transas Telematics Ltd.
- Morsviazsputnik
- Fulcrum Maritime Ltd

Full details of the above testing ASP's are on our website.

Ship owners should contact these ASP's for conformance testing of their LRIT equipment. The ASP will test the equipment. There will be a fee involved for this that will have to be paid by the Owners to the ASP. **The ASP will issue a Conformance Certificate to the ship with a copy to us.** **SKANReg** do not issue the Conformance Certificate, this is issued by the ASP.

When the first Safety Radio survey after 31st December 2008 is carried out, the Recognised Organisation (Class Society) will check that the equipment is operating satisfactorily and that it has been set up to transmit the position of the ship 4 times daily to Securewest as our National Data Centre. Therefore, at least 7 days before the date of the Safety Radio Survey owners should send an email to Securewest advising them of the date of the Radio Survey so that Securewest can remotely turn on the LRIT equipment (Poll the equipment) and start it transmitting the ships position.

The same instructions apply for any ships flagging into **SKANReg**. Please ensure your clients are aware of this when flagging into **SKANReg**.

We will accept a Conformance Test carried out for another flag by one of the ASP's we have authorised when a ship flags into **SKANReg**. If a ship coming onto our flag does not have a Conformance Test Certificate issued by one of our recognised ASP's, the owner will have to get one from one of our authorised ASP's.

It is most important that owners start testing their equipment as soon as possible. Equipment more than 7 years old is unlikely to be LRIT compliant and the chances of that between 5 and 7 years old being compliant is also low. Even equipment that is less than 5 years old may not be compliant with the performance standards of the LRIT requirements.

Exemption from the requirements of LRIT

Although the provisions of regulation V/19-1 do not include any expressed provisions which allow or enable an Administration to grant exemptions from, or equivalents to, the requirement to transmit LRIT information, in exceptional circumstances this Administration may be prepared to grant an exemption for a single voyage from the requirements from SOLAS V/19-1 subject to the following recommendations contained within IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1295.

- 1) The ship is to provide a copy of the voyage or passage plan for the specific voyage to:
 - a. The Recognised Organisation (Class) responsible for issuing the SOLAS Certification
 - b. The Contracting Government within whose jurisdiction the port or place to which the ship is proceeding to is located and

- c. To the Contracting Governments of the coast of which the ship might be navigating and
 - d. any changes thereto; OR
- 2) Report its position at 6 – hourly intervals during the voyage, to the aforesaid Contracting Governments.

Ship Owners & Operators wishing to be exempted from the requirements of SOLAS V/19-1 are not required to apply to this Administration for the Exemption mentioned above, but should apply direct and provide evidence of compliance with the above to the Recognised Organisation(s) and/or authorised Surveyors of Ships responsible for carrying out surveys and issuing certification for the voyage in question.

We will keep our website updated with information about LRIT matters.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Nigel E Smith
International Registrar of Shipping & Seamen